accountability and optimal utilisation of resources allocated to the Ministry of Defence. The Government has also set up a Committee headed by the Vice Chief of Army Staff (VCOAS) to suggest further streamlining of defence procurement proceudre to ensure the twin objective of accountability and expediency.

New police check posts in Assam

5511. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up new police check posts in the State of Assam to control the law and order situation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of additional budget being given to strengthen the law and order sitaution in the State; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Arrest of NSCN General Secretary

5512. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Hindsutan Times dated the 28th January, 2000, regarding arrest of T.H. Muivah General Secretary of NSCN in Thailand; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFARIS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India remains committed to peace talks with NSCN(I / M).

Bal Bharti student wounded by gun shot

5513. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that one student at the Air Force Bal Bharti School was wounded by gun shot;